

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q61924

Francois PANZANI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/722,299

Group Art Unit: 2617

Confirmation No.: 5765

Examiner: Huy D. NGUYEN

Filed: November 28, 2000

For: SATELLITE TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

**REQUEST FOR RE-MAILING OF OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant requests re-mailing and restarting of the response date for the most recent office action mailed in this case.

The undersigned last filed a Status Inquiry on January 24, 2006. On July 25, 2006, the examiner advised the undersigned that an Office action had been mailed. The examiner sent a copy of the Office action by facsimile (copy attached). But there is no cover sheet to the Office action indicating the status of all claims, any drawing objections, etc., and no indication of the mailing date, and no setting of the period for response. Thus, applicant does not know when the response is due. In addition, no copy of the Office action is available in the Image File Wrapper, evidence that the Office action may not in fact ever been mailed.

Accordingly, re-mailing of the Office action and resetting of the period for response is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

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Date: August 11, 2006



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## Fax Cover Sheet

Date: 25 Jul 2006

To: David Cushing	From: Huy D. Nguyen
Application/Control Number: 09/722,289	Art Unit: 2617
Fax No.: 202-293-7860	Phone No.: 571-272-7845
Voice No.:	Return Fax No.: (571) 273-8300
Re:	CC:
<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Review <input type="checkbox"/> For Comment <input type="checkbox"/> For Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Per Your Request	

Comments:

Number of pages 4 including this page

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments filed 05/13/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claim 1, the applicant stated that nowhere does Stern disclose, teach or suggest signals from a plurality of areas are combined into groups. The examiner states that signals from areas that have base sites 121, 122, 123, 124 are grouped into group X and signals from areas that have base sites 411, 412, 413, 414 are grouped into group M (see Fig. 1). And there is routing means 150 (col. 4, lines 37-38) for calls to be transferred from X system to M system.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stern et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,799,253).

Regarding claims 1, 4-8, 10-13, Stern et al. teaches a transmit-receive system on board a satellite for a telecommunication system within a region covered by said system, wherein said region includes a plurality of areas including isolated areas (see Fig. 1), said system receives calls from any area and transmits said calls to the same area or another area, said system comprising: means for combining signals from said plurality of areas into groups (e.g. group X

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huy D Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-3283. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Erika A Gary can be reached on 703-308-0123. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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and group M), and routing means for routing calls from any one of said groups to itself, or to another of said groups, wherein each group is allocated all of the communication resources of said region (Fig. 1; Col. 5, lines 15-27).

Regarding claim 2, Stern et al. teaches the system as in claim 1 wherein routing means are hardwired (e.g. trunk 150, Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 3, Stern et al. teaches the system as in claim 1 wherein said areas are allocated to said groups in such a manner that the traffic is substantially the same from one group to another (Fig. 1; Col. 5, lines 15-27).

Regarding claim 9, Stern et al. teaches the system as in claim 8 wherein said resources allocated to said groups for interconnecting said groups include frequency bands (col. 4, line 39).

### *Conclusion*

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.